

Venetians also. While the Norman "disinherited" reminded Conrad of Roger's triumphs in imperial territory, Roger entertained not a few of Conrad's rebels; he would have opened his court of Palermo to more of them, says a historian of the time, "except that the Germans were a race whose barbarism he could not endure."¹

Meanwhile Roger had become the hope of those whose hearts were set on a fresh Crusade, who despaired of rousing the rulers of France and Germany to a fresh effort and now looked to the third greatest prince of the West to retrieve the great defeat. Among those who returned from the Holy Land by Sicily was Cardinal Theodwin; kindly received there by Roger he continued to press on him the duty of taking up the cause of the Franks of Palestine. The King of Sicily, so long anathema to all the Hildebrandine party, became the favoured of princes to the Cluniac leaders. Of all the appeals to take the Cross the weightiest was that urged by Peter the Venerable, Abbot of Cluny; his letter is in the most dignified and pathetic terms. The Abbot has heard with sorrow of the death of the King's sons, and has ordered masses to be sung for them. He grieves over the King's quarrel with the two

Empires.

The minds of all in France are stirred
by tales of
the treachery of the Greeks; will not
Roger himself
carry on the Crusade to victory? The
Abbot sees
none under heaven of the Christian
princes so well

¹ *Historia PontificaUs*, c. xxxil, *M, G. H, SS.*, t.
xx., p. 538.